

To: Hague, Mark[Hague.Mark@epa.gov]
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[295150001-West-Lake-Update-01-11-2016-Yr-Review.pdf](#)

Desk Statement Regarding Passage of Senate Bill Authorizing Transfer of West Lake Site to USACE

EPA is aware the Senate recently took the first step in a lengthy process to authorize the transfer of the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site from EPA jurisdiction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Until the bill passes the House and is signed into law by the President, EPA retains its responsibility as the lead federal agency at the site and will work diligently to protect the public from the wastes contained at the West Lake Landfill. EPA remains focused on overseeing work related to the proposed isolation barrier and continues to work toward a final remedy proposal by the end of 2016.

EPA is making good progress at the Superfund Site. We have an enforceable work schedule with the parties that requires the submission of evaluations necessary for EPA to propose a final remedy for public comment by the end of 2016. In addition, at the end of December 2015, EPA announced a decision to require the potentially responsible parties to build an isolation barrier to separate radioactive material from an underground smoldering event in an adjacent landfill. The decision calls for the installation of additional engineering controls, such as cooling loops, cover, and additional monitoring to prevent potential impacts that could result if an underground smoldering event were to come into contact with the radioactive materials contained in the West Lake Landfill. Also in December 2015, EPA announced an enforceable removal action to develop and implement surface fire prevention measures at the West Lake Landfill Site. The order requires extensive prevention plans including placing material over all exposed areas where radioactive material is currently known to be at or near the surface. Field work on surface fire prevention measures is expected to begin soon and be completed by the end of this spring.

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